



**Application for the
2016 Tennessee Governor's School
for the
Sciences**

General Information

The Tennessee Governor's Schools offer selected gifted and talented high school students intensive learning experiences on postsecondary campuses. Students in the tenth and eleventh grades who would like to participate in a challenging and high-intensity program in one of the twelve areas should obtain application(s) from their school counselor. Each school system is encouraged to share the Governor's School information and applications with strong students who meet the criteria listed below. Nominations for the Tennessee Governor's schools must be made by high school counselors or principals. Each Governor's School convenes a review/selection committee which will select the students invited to attend each school.

Submitting the Application:

Completed applications should be mailed by the school counselor to the respective Governor's School(s). Applications submitted directly by students will not be accepted. The student may keep a copy of the application, excluding the confidential teacher's reference forms and the confidential school counselor's recommendation form; the school counselor should keep one complete copy of the submitted application package.

Application Submission Instructions

1. Ensure applications are complete, arranged in the correct order, and contain all required signatures and documents as outlined below.
2. School counselors must submit applications with a postmark no later than the deadline(s) listed on page two of each application.
3. Each Governor's School has specific essay and writing sample questions. All questions must be answered and submitted with the application packet.
4. Class rank, class size, numerical test scores, etc., must be provided by the counselor, if available. Please note that while PSAT, SAT, and ACT scores are not mandatory, school counselors are strongly encouraged to include this information if available.
5. Students are to list two teachers (see school-specific list) to complete the confidential teacher reference forms. The school counselor will need to obtain the completed forms from the respective teachers. There is a space available at the bottom of the teacher reference form to put the name of the school counselor to whom the form is to be returned.
6. An official transcript must be included in the application packet.

Additional guidance on completing the required forms can be found on page 3 of the application packet, "Application Checklist."

**Governor's School for the Sciences
University of Tennessee at Knoxville
June 5 – July 2, 2016**

The Governor's School for the Sciences provides the opportunity for advanced study, laboratory experience, and research forming the basis for modern science. You will participate in a variety of individualized and team projects that highlight many of the most exciting areas of scientific and mathematical research. Students will interact with leading scientists in seminar discussions that emphasize research and its relation to society. Individualized and small group instruction is available in biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics. Students will choose an elective course that will involve afternoon lecture and laboratory sessions in science or mathematics. The morning courses taken by all students focus on basic scientific skills and the role science plays in our society. Evening activities include lectures by experts on current trends in scientific research in the sciences. In-class instruction is complemented by field trips to scientific laboratories, companies using technology developed through science, and other team building exercises. Students are challenged to perform experiments, to make experimental determinations and communicate these by effective writing and to consider the unique features of science as a professional discipline.

The Governor's School for the Sciences is a four-week, non-credit experience, which exposes students to scientific disciplines in the University of Tennessee environment.

For more information on the program, please visit <http://govschool.utk.edu>.

Prerequisites: Students applying for the School for the Sciences must have completed at least one year of high school level laboratory science and one year of algebra. Applicants must have a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Application deadline: Dec. 7, 2015

Additional application steps and information:

1. Together with your counselor, fill out the personal data form online at <http://govschool.utk.edu> and obtain your confirmation number.
2. Complete the remaining application file, and have your counselor email all sections to gsse@utk.edu. Please include the confirmation number on all files.
3. If you are also applying to the Governor's School for Engineering, you need not submit a separate application.

If you have any questions, please contact the School by email (gsse@utk.edu) or phone (865-974-0756).

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Application Checklist

Is this application complete?

<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Information Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Certification of Application <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant signs <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/guardian signs <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor/principal signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Achievement Information <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor/principal completes and signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Counselor Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor/principal completes and signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Teacher Recommendation 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher 1 completes and signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Teacher Recommendation 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher 2 completes and signs
<input type="checkbox"/> School specific questions referred to on page 6
<input type="checkbox"/> Official Transcript

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Teacher Recommendation Guide

The two Confidential Teacher Recommendation forms should be completed as follows:

Governor's School	Teacher Recommendation 1	Teacher Recommendation 2
Agricultural Sciences	Applicant's choosing	Applicant's choosing
Business and IT Leadership	Technology or business teacher	Applicant's choosing
Computational Physics	Science teacher	Math teacher
Emerging Technologies	Science teacher	Math teacher
Engineering	Science teacher	Math teacher
Humanities	English teacher	Applicant's choosing, preferably in humanities discipline
International studies	Foreign language teacher, if available	Social studies teacher, if available
Prospective Teachers	English teacher	Applicant's choosing
Sciences	Science teacher	Math teacher
Scientific Exploration of Tennessee Heritage	Social studies or science teacher	Humanities or arts teacher
Scientific Models and Data Analysis	Science teacher	Math teacher

Please list the two teachers from whom the applicant is requesting confidential teacher recommendations.

	Name	Subject
Teacher 1		
Teacher 2		

Governor's Schools of Tennessee - Applicant Information Form

Student Information					
Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
Mailing Address		City		Zip Code	
Home Phone		Cell Phone		Email Address	
Date of Birth Month/Day/Year		Gender		Current Grade	
<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male		<input type="checkbox"/> 10 th <input type="checkbox"/> 11 th		<input type="checkbox"/> African-American/Black <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino	
				<input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Multiracial <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Race (select all that apply)					
List all physical disabilities (e.g., visual, auditory, respiratory) above, noting those which might in any way limit your capacity. This will not affect your selection. This information is needed to enable us to provide appropriate facilities/services.					

Parent/Guardian Information			
Parent/Guardian Name		Relationship to Applicant	
Mailing Address		City	
Work Phone		Cell Phone	
		Email Address	

School Information			
School Name		District Name	
Counselor Name		Phone	
		Email	
Mailing Address		City	
		Zip Code	

In the selection of students and faculty, the Tennessee Governor's Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability.

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Certification of Application

Preference Indication

Any student applying to multiple Governor's Schools **must** rank the schools in order of preference on this form only (1=most preferred, etc.). It is not necessary to rank schools to which the student will not apply.

Ranking	Governor's School
	Agricultural Sciences
	Computational Physics
	Emerging Technologies
	Engineering
	Humanities
	IT Leadership
	International Studies
	Prospective Teachers
	Sciences
	Scientific Exploration of Tennessee Heritage
	Scientific Models and Data Analysis

Student Assurances

I have not previously attended a Tennessee Governor's School, and I affirm, agree, and/or understand that all statements on this form are true and accurate; any misrepresentation or omission of material facts may result in disqualification or termination should I already be enrolled in a Tennessee Governor's School.

By making this application, I and my parent/guardian agree to the release of any necessary school records to the Governor's School and the respective university for the purpose of determining eligibility. I/we understand and agree that such school records will be kept confidential and used only for determining admissibility to the Governor's School. Students who do not agree to the release of such school records for determining admissibility will not be considered for the Governor's Schools.

I certify to the best of my knowledge all of the information provided in this application is correct. I acknowledge that information about me may be used for publicity purposes if I am selected to attend a Governor's School.

Applicant's Printed Name

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Assurances

I have carefully reviewed the information on this application and give my permission for my son/daughter to proceed with application procedures. I acknowledge that the Governor's Schools may offer university course credit and grades which will require university enrollment. I authorize the high school and its employees to release any information necessary for this application.

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

School Assurances

I nominate the applicant listed above for the Tennessee Governor's School and certify that the applicant meets the criteria and the prerequisites of the Governor's School to which the application is made. I recommend this student for admission to the Governor's School(s), for admission to the hosting university during summer session 2016, and for enrollment in university courses which may or may not allow the student to earn postsecondary credit and grades.

Principal/Counselor's Printed Name

Principal/Counselor's Signature

Date

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – School for the Sciences
Application Questions

**Responses should be typed and submitted on a separate sheet of paper.
Each question must be answered completely.**

1. In an essay of a maximum of 200 words, explain why you wish to participate in the Governor's School for the Sciences and how your background qualifies you for this program. Also describe your most challenging experience (academic, personal, etc.) so far and how you tackled it.
2. In an essay of a maximum of 200 words, describe which field of science (biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics) interests you the most, how you became interested in that field, and what you plan to do in the future to pursue that interest.
 - a. List the awards and other special recognitions you have received for science, mathematics, and other areas since the seventh grade.
 - b. List projects and other significant experiences related to the sciences, mathematics, and other related areas that you have had since the seventh grade. Include important class projects, out-of-class work, such as science fair projects and science- related competitions, summer science enrichment experiences, other research projects, and work experiences.
 - c. If your school has block scheduling, what science, mathematics, or other related courses will you be taking during the spring semester?

Confirmation Number:

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Student Achievement Information

While information pertaining to some of the following items may not be available for all students, please include all available information. Enter requested scores on this sheet only if they do not appear on the official transcript. Use the latest scores available. If your school does not rank, enter "do not rank" or "none."

Student Information

Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 th <input type="checkbox"/> 11 th					<input type="checkbox"/> 4.0 <input type="checkbox"/> 5.0
Current Grade	Class Size	Class Rank	GPA	Cumulative GPA	GPA Scale
Yes		No			
Does this student meet the GPA and other prerequisites set forth by the school in the application packet? If no, please do not submit an application for this student.					

Achievement Tests

Test (list others as appropriate)	Grade Administered	Score	Percentile Ranking(s)
TCAP Writing Assessment			

Aptitude Tests

Test	Grade Administered	Score	Percentile Ranking(s)
PLAN Composite			
ACT Composite			
PSAT Critical Reading			
PSAT Writing			
SAT Verbal			
SAT Math			
SAT Writing			
SAT II - specify test(s)			

Intelligence Tests or Tests of Cognitive Ability

Name of Test	Grade Administered	Total Score / Subscores	Percentile Ranking(s)

Any Relevant Test Scores

Name of Test	Grade Administered	Total Score / Subscores	Percentile Ranking(s)

Principal/Counselor Score Certification

I certify to the best of my knowledge the below results are accurately reported.

Principal/Counselor's Printed Name

Principal/Counselor's Signature

Date

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Confidential Counselor Recommendation

Student Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Governor's School(s)		High School

To the counselor: the student listed above is applying for selection to a Tennessee Governor's School. A complete application requires the following information and evaluation from you. Please submit the entire application consisting of: Applicant Information form, Certification of Application form, Student Achievement Information form, this Confidential Counselor Recommendation form, two (2) Confidential Teacher Reference forms, the applicant's responses to school-specific application, and a transcript to the appropriate address listed on the cover. This form is for confidential use by Governor's School officials and will not be released.

Attendance and Discipline

	2014-15	2015-16 (to date)
Number of days absent		
Number of disciplinary referrals (please explain or attach disciplinary record on separate sheet)		

Counselor Recommendation

1. Have you reviewed the student's academic records?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Does the student meet the prerequisites of the Governor's School(s) to which this application is made?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. In your opinion, how academically qualified is the student for the Governor's School experience?	<input type="checkbox"/> Highly Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Marginally Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Not Qualified
4. Do you recommend this student for the Governor's School(s) to which this application is made?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Please provide narrative comments about this student to help with our evaluation. Narrative comments are extremely helpful to the selection committees.	
If the above-referenced students does not meet the prerequisites set forth in the application packet, is not academically qualified, and/or you would not recommend this student for a Governor's School, then the student is ineligible and an application should not be submitted.	
Principal/Counselor's Printed Name	
Principal/Counselor's Signature	Date

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Confidential Teacher Recommendation

Student Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Governor's School(s)		High School
Applicant's school counselor		Deadline to return teacher recommendation

To the teacher: The above-referenced student is applying to attend one of the Tennessee Governor's Schools, an intensive residency program for mature, gifted, and talented students. This applicant has designated you as one of his or her teachers of reference. This recommendation form is a critically important part of the student's application and will have a significant role in the selection process. Please provide us with a candid, frank, and complete assessment of this student's maturity, attitude, work commitment, and creativity. This form will not become a part of the student's regular school records; it will be used solely by officials of the Governor's School to aid them in the selection process. The contents of this form will not be disclosed to the application or his/her parents/guardians. The Governor's School officials greatly appreciate your help in this section process.

Please return this completed form to the applicant's school counselor by the date listed above.

1. How long have you known and worked with this applicant?		
2. In what situations have you served as this applicant's teacher?		
3. Please evaluate this applicant in the areas below, comparing him or her with similar outstanding students you have had in the past:		
<i>Ability to learn</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Learns very quickly <input type="checkbox"/> Learns readily <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Must work hard to learn <input type="checkbox"/> Does not learn easily	<i>Attitude toward work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Can be indifferent <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks commitment	<i>Dependability/consistency</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Always dependable <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally unreliable <input type="checkbox"/> Usually unreliable
<i>Initiative</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Self-directed/motivated <input type="checkbox"/> Usually independent <input type="checkbox"/> Completes work assigned <input type="checkbox"/> Needs some prodding <input type="checkbox"/> Very hesitant	<i>Judgment</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally good <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average for a teenager <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional poor judgments <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent poor judgments	<i>Maturity</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Extremely mature <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average teenager <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat mature <input type="checkbox"/> Very immature
<i>Relations with others</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally good <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Many conflicts	<i>Quality of work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Below average <input type="checkbox"/> Very poor	<i>Quantity of work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Unusually high output <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average output <input type="checkbox"/> Not a great producer <input type="checkbox"/> Low output, slow
4. How would you describe the applicant's punctuality?		
<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Low		
5. What is your best judgment about this applicant's emotional maturity and stability to deal with an intensive residency program in which he/she will meet new people, face new situations, and encounter new challenges during the weeks of the program?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Will adapt readily to the changes and challenges and will be a successful participant <input type="checkbox"/> Should be able to adapt to the changes and challenges with minimal adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Should succeed but will have some difficulty dealing with the stress <input type="checkbox"/> This applicant may have some difficulty dealing with the stress and may not be successful <input type="checkbox"/> This applicant will have great difficulty dealing with new situations and challenges		

Confirmation Number:

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Confidential Teacher Recommendation (cont'd)

6. This applicant's outstanding personal qualities are:

7. The personal qualities this applicant should strive most to improve are:

8. Please indicate your overall judgment about this applicant:

- ☐ Very highly recommended, an outstanding student who will do well in the school.
- ☐ Highly recommended, a very good student who will be successful in the school.
- ☐ Recommended, a good student who will participate effectively in the school.
- ☐ Recommended with reservations, a good student but he/she may present some problems
- ☐ I do not recommend this student.

9. Summary Comments: We must select a relatively small number of students from a large pool of exceptional applicants. Please tell us something about this student that is not reflected in any of the above ratings which will help us make a decision. What makes this applicant truly exceptional? Summary comments are extremely important to the selection committees, and reference letters are acceptable. If you need more space, you may attach another sheet.

Name

Signature

Date

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Confidential Teacher Recommendation

Student Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Governor's School(s)		High School
Applicant's school counselor		Deadline to return teacher recommendation

To the teacher: The above-referenced student is applying to attend one of the Tennessee Governor's Schools, an intensive residency program for mature, gifted, and talented students. This applicant has designated you as one of his or her teachers of reference. This recommendation form is a critically important part of the student's application and will have a significant role in the selection process. Please provide us with a candid, frank, and complete assessment of this student's maturity, attitude, work commitment, and creativity. This form will not become a part of the student's regular school records; it will be used solely by officials of the Governor's School to aid them in the selection process. The contents of this form will not be disclosed to the application or his/her parents/guardians. The Governor's School officials greatly appreciate your help in this section process.

Please return this completed form to the applicant's school counselor by the date listed above.

1. How long have you known and worked with this applicant?		
2. In what situations have you served as this applicant's teacher?		
3. Please evaluate this applicant in the areas below, comparing him or her with similar outstanding students you have had in the past:		
<i>Ability to learn</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Learns very quickly <input type="checkbox"/> Learns readily <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Must work hard to learn <input type="checkbox"/> Does not learn easily	<i>Attitude toward work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Can be indifferent <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks commitment	<i>Dependability/consistency</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Always dependable <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally unreliable <input type="checkbox"/> Usually unreliable
<i>Initiative</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Self-directed/motivated <input type="checkbox"/> Usually independent <input type="checkbox"/> Completes work assigned <input type="checkbox"/> Needs some prodding <input type="checkbox"/> Very hesitant	<i>Judgment</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally good <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average for a teenager <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional poor judgments <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent poor judgments	<i>Maturity</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Extremely mature <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average teenager <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat mature <input type="checkbox"/> Very immature
<i>Relations with others</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally good <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Many conflicts	<i>Quality of work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Below average <input type="checkbox"/> Very poor	<i>Quantity of work</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Unusually high output <input type="checkbox"/> Above average <input type="checkbox"/> Average output <input type="checkbox"/> Not a great producer <input type="checkbox"/> Low output, slow
4. How would you describe the applicant's punctuality?		
<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Low		
5. What is your best judgment about this applicant's emotional maturity and stability to deal with an intensive residency program in which he/she will meet new people, face new situations, and encounter new challenges during the weeks of the program?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Will adapt readily to the changes and challenges and will be a successful participant <input type="checkbox"/> Should be able to adapt to the changes and challenges with minimal adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Should succeed but will have some difficulty dealing with the stress <input type="checkbox"/> This applicant may have some difficulty dealing with the stress and may not be successful <input type="checkbox"/> This applicant will have great difficulty dealing with new situations and challenges		

Confirmation Number:

Governor's Schools of Tennessee – Confidential Teacher Recommendation (cont'd)

6. This applicant's outstanding personal qualities are:

7. The personal qualities this applicant should strive most to improve are:

8. Please indicate your overall judgment about this applicant:

- ☐ Very highly recommended, an outstanding student who will do well in the school.
- ☐ Highly recommended, a very good student who will be successful in the school.
- ☐ Recommended, a good student who will participate effectively in the school.
- ☐ Recommended with reservations, a good student but he/she may present some problems
- ☐ I do not recommend this student.

9. Summary Comments: We must select a relatively small number of students from a large pool of exceptional applicants. Please tell us something about this student that is not reflected in any of the above ratings which will help us make a decision. What makes this applicant truly exceptional? Summary comments are extremely important to the selection committees, and reference letters are acceptable. If you need more space, you may attach another sheet.

Name

Signature

Date